

# Garrett Bugle Internet Edition

Volume 59 October 2012 No. 8

Calendar		
Pick up your <i>Bugle</i> at Penn Place	Tues., Oct. 9	Lunch Bunch, Town Hall, 12:30 pm; <i>Bugle</i> deadline, 3 pm
Market, 9 am–1 pm	Wed., Oct. 10	Annual membership meeting of
Large item pickup	the Swimming Pool, Town Hall, 7:30 pm; GPES PTA Book Fair,	
Citizens Assoc. Newcomers Welcome, Town Hall, 3–5 pm (all		open to the public, at the school, 6–8 pm (see p 4)
Conservation Action Network	Fri., Oct. 12	Film Society, <i>Local Hero</i> , Town Hall; dinner 7 pm, film 8 pm (p 2)
_	Sat., Oct. 13	Attic in the Street sale,
Casual Music Jam, Town Hall, 8 pm		Kenilworth Ave. south side, 9 am–1 pm
Sat., Oct. 6 Porches and Patios around town, 6 pm (see article p 2); GIVES collection, Penn Place, 9 am–1 pm	Thurs., Oct. 18	Casual Music Jam, Town Hall, 8 pm
	Fri., Oct. 19	Pick up your <i>Bugle</i> at Penn Place in the afternoon
Town Council Meeting, Town Hall, 7:30 pm		
	Pick up your <i>Bugle</i> at Penn Place GIVES collection, Farmers Market, 9 am–1 pm Large item pickup Citizens Assoc. Newcomers Welcome, Town Hall, 3–5 pm (all residents are invited) Conservation Action Network (CAN) mtg., Town Hall, 7 pm Casual Music Jam, Town Hall, 8 pm Porches and Patios around town, 6 pm (see article p 2); GIVES collection, Penn Place, 9 am–1 pm Town Council Meeting, Town	Pick up your <i>Bugle</i> at Penn Place GIVES collection, Farmers Market, 9 am–1 pm  Large item pickup Citizens Assoc. Newcomers Welcome, Town Hall, 3–5 pm (all residents are invited) Conservation Action Network (CAN) mtg., Town Hall, 7 pm Casual Music Jam, Town Hall, 8 pm  Porches and Patios around town, 6 pm (see article p 2); GIVES collection, Penn Place, 9 am–1 pm Town Council Meeting, Town  Tues., Oct. 9  Wed., Oct. 10  Fri., Oct. 12  Fri., Oct. 12  Fri., Oct. 13

## Waiting for a Rain Garden

Summer's grip broke just in time for the September meeting of the Town Council to feel like a *September*, rather than August, meeting. Suddenly the climate was cool, the early evening clear, the air free of flying trees. Your reporter arrived at the Town Hall calm and refreshed and ready for another year of civic excitement.

Mayor Benjamin noted that because your reporter arrived 30 seconds late she missed Presentations by Residents, of which there were none because no residents were there. Later, some residents arrived.

The Mayor began by noting that we have so far received neither local property tax nor revenue sharing from the county.

In response to our Monthly Financial Report, the Mayor observed that personnel expenses are "moving a little high," and we need to keep an eye on that. More broadly, he had a number of questions about the Report, some elements of which are not adding up. We need closer inquiry into the budget, said the Mayor, and indeed "we now have a task force looking at this."

After thanking Tara Flynn and Chris Petito for taking over during his recent absences, the Mayor opened up things for discussion.

Phil Schulp asked about the seemingly permanent display of large piping at the traffic triangle on Kenilworth. The Mayor said that it's for the Shelley Court project, that work had stopped because of various issues now resolved, and that things should start happening soon.

Phil also noted that Washington Gas has yet to do meter upgrading for a few houses in town. The Mayor replied that "we need to make this process more formal. We need to be informed that they're coming so other things in town don't get disrupted."

The community liaison to the nursery school remarked that the question of how to remake the

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green area between the school and Garrett Park Elementary remains open (this used to be the Stuart Kaufman Playground). Can that area be an environmental education space? Can it have plantings in honor of various people? How should we proceed?

The Mayor replied that we've been waiting to hear from the county about a rain garden near that space, and Tara Flynn explained that "nothing can happen to that area until a rain garden goes in."

Thus ended a very short meeting of the Garrett Park Town Council.

Margaret Soltan

#### **Porches and Patios**

The Second Annual Porches and Patios soirée (our fall progressive outdoor light supper) is coming up on Saturday, October 6, from 6 pm till ... See the poster in the post office, and pick up your registration form in order to join in the fun, either by offering your porch or patio, making your favorite appetizer or dessert, offering to help organize, or just to enjoy a wonderful community evening.

#### **GPFS Presents** *Local Hero*

From Scottish director Bill Forsyth, Local Hero (1983, PG) takes a comic look at the conflict between economic development and environmental preservation. When an American oil billionaire, played by Burt Lancaster, sends his young assistant to Scotland to buy a coastal village to build an oil refinery, the conflict that ensues is not what one might expect. Playing on stereotypes of both Scots and Americans, Forsyth's gentle good humor makes for a feel-good film that can be enjoyed by the whole family.

The film will be shown on October 12 at 8 pm in the Town Hall. Admission is free for members and is \$5 per person or \$10 per family for nonmembers.

Dinner will be served at 7 pm (menu to be determined).

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#### Town Administrator Notes

*Large item pickup.* The fall large item collection will take place on Saturday, September 29. Please mark your calendars accordingly.

Driveway and parking pad permits. Please remember, if you are planning to alter your driveway or install a parking pad in front of your house, you are going to impact town property, and you must file for a permit with the Town Office.

Be prepared. September is National Preparedness Month. It's important to remember that a certain degree of self-reliance is usually necessary after a major catastrophe. It's recommended that each household should have at least 3 days worth of water, food, and other essentials on hand at all times. For safety, avoid candles and oil lamps, and get battery-powered emergency lights instead. For more information on how best to prepare for the worst, visit www.makeaplan.org or call 866-788-PLAN. The Town Office has information on programs such as Ready Plan and File of Life.

Leaf removal. Autumn is fast upon us, and the leaves will start to fall soon. As before, Bethke Landscaping will be removing leaves for the town, starting the week of October 15 and continuing until the end of the year. Each street will be cleared once every week, as early in the week as possible (rain will delay collections). Leaves should be placed in rows along the curb. Please remove sticks, trash, and other debris that could damage the machinery. Shredded leaves or grass clippings should be bagged and put out for the regular yard waste collection (or used for mulch).

Leaf raking and yard work assistance: Any young people in town who would like to offer their services to help residents with fall yard work may contact Elizabeth Henley at the Town Office (301-933-7488) to add their names to the list we keep.

> Ted Pratt, Town Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer

Visit Garrett Park's Web site: www.garrettpark-md.gov

The Garrett Bugle is a publication of the Citizens Association of Garrett Park, published 10 times a year. Publication of the *Bugle* is supported by member dues. All residents of Garrett Park are members of the Citizens Association. Yearly dues (\$20 per family or \$10 per individual per address) can be sent to Citizens Association, Box 456, Garrett Park, MD 20896.

**Citizens Association Officers:** 

Mario Grande (mfgrande@aol.com) President:

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Subscriptions: Jane Salomon (Box 227) Distribution: Peggy Pratt First-class subscriptions cost \$15 (bulk mail subscriptions are no longer available). Letters to the editor can be submitted by mail or hand to Bugle staff or by e-mail through the town Web site: www.garrettpark-md.gov/submit-BugleArticle.php. The editor reserves the right to edit submissions for length and clarity. Unsigned letters will not be printed.

#### Citizens Association News

The Annual July 4 Festivities were scaled back this year because of the crazy storm. It was nice to celebrate as a community as we all started to see our power return. The theme this year was "Passing the Torch," and although the parade was cancelled, prizes were still given out for terrific costumes at the picnic (kudos to Ryan Mulligan for his imaginative entry representing a multitude of historical people). The CA barbecued up a storm, and the GPES Education Foundation sold drinks. Thanks again to Black Market and Grosvenor Market for all their help. Great music was provided by Border State.

2nd Annual GP Pie Baking Contest results. Even in the wake of the derecho and the lack of power, a few GPers entered the pie-baking contest this year. The event was swept by the Schwartz family, with both Ken and his daughter Claire Schwartz Litwin tied for first place. Ken made a "Wunderbar BTELCM ['better than Ed Lincoln can make'] apple blueberry pie," and Claire made a Baltimore rhubarb custard pie.

Super honorable mention went to Michael Spekter for his PEPCO Power Outage Pie. First three recipe steps: (1) Power must go out. (2) Try to find a working flashlight and forage for fruit you believe will be in the fridge (he found three apples, a peach, a pear, and some strawberries for his entry). (3) Find the candles so you can see. Luckily he has a gas oven, so the pie was cooked!

In the kids' entry, Georgina Burros (age 12) made a Bakewell tart. This traditional English dessert was made to honor the London Olympics and her heritage.

The pie contest brought in \$76, which was split equally between the Citizens Association and the Betsy White Fund. Special thanks to our judges! Copies of the recipes can be had from Lori Conlan.

With luck, next year there will be no storm problems, and the "sweet" tradition will continue.

Upcoming events. Watch the listserv for the Spooky Woods, held in late October. This event haunts Porcupine Woods for one evening to "scare" all our kids.

**Services for Seniors** What Makes ElderCaring Different? Activities of Daily Living • Bathing • Dressing • Transferring 2 hour minin num for services -Lifting most companies require 4 hours as Personal Care & Hygiene All caregivers are professionally Support Services trained nursing assistants Companionship The owner of ElderCaring personally meets with you to discuss your needs Meal PreparationMedication Reminder Physical Therapy Light Housekeeping All caregivers are fluent in English Personal choice in selection of Transportation to Appointments every caregiver Licensed, Bonded, Insured 24 Hours Service – 7 Days a Week MD • Call 301-949-0060 VA • Call 703-956-3564 Would you like to receive a brochure in the mail, or set up an appointment?

Future meetings. Do you have a suggestion or idea for a meeting topic that you feel would be of interest to the town? If so, please forward your thoughts to Mario Grande at mfgrande@aol.com or send a note to Box 456.

Annual dues. The Citizens Association 2012 annual dues are being collected. The annual dues are \$10 for individuals and \$20 per family. Thank you to all those who have already paid. For those who have not, please submit dues by mailing them to the Citizens Association at Box 456.

Garrett Park listserv. Our neighborhood is made up of people with a wide variety of backgrounds, skills, perspectives, and experiences. Tap into these resources and stay informed with the Garrett Park neighborhood listserv. The listserv is an electronic forum for neighbors to communicate information about town concerns, safety issues, upcoming events, and recommended services (for example, contractors, lawn care, doctors, and baby sitters). The listserv will not be used for unsolicited marketing, and you can unsubscribe at any time. To join, e-mail Todd Harris or sign in at groups.yahoo.com/group/GarrettParkneighbors/join.

Questions or comments for the Citizens Association? If so, please send a note to P.O. Box 456 or e-mail Mario Grande (mfgrande@aol.com).

#### Attic in the Street October 13

The Garrett Park Women's Club is pleased to announce the annual Attic in the Street townwide street sale on Saturday, October 13, from 9 am to 1 pm (rain date will be October 20). Attic in the Street is like a giant yard sale in one location—participants will have allotted spaces along Kenilworth Avenue between Strathmore Avenue and Oxford Street. The street will be closed to traffic. It's a great place to find a good buy, socialize with neighbors, and enjoy refreshments on sale by the Garrett Park Nursery School and our local Scout troop.

The cost is \$20 for one space or \$35 for two spaces. Setup time is from 7 to 8:30 am, and all unsold materials must be cleared by 2 pm.

The deadline to register for a space is October 6 (postmark). To register, please send your name, address, telephone, e-mail address, number of spaces requested, and check (made payable to the Garrett Park Women's Club) to Garrett Park Women's Club, P.O. Box 494, Garrett Park, MD 20896. Once you register, you will receive an e-mail confirmation and other details about the event.

For more information, or if you are interested in volunteering to help with this event, please contact Kathy Hedge.

Kathy Hedge

## Bugle Notes . . . Sweet and Sour

- We have another graduate to congratulate: Lauren Morse received an MBA from Duke University in the spring. She is working with a consulting firm in Atlanta, Georgia, at the moment.
- We hear from Sally Newman of Shelley Court that her daughter, Sara Madanikia, is engaged to Jonathan Dudley. The couple are in their final year of medical school at Johns Hopkins (where they met during their first year anatomy course). Their wedding will be on March 24, 2013, at the Gramercy Mansion in Stevenson, Maryland. Congratulations to the happy couple and their families!
- Did you happen to catch an interview on WTOP with our own Peter Benjamin? He was in New Orleans working with the Red Cross during Hurricane Isaac. It repeated several times during the day, but Peter never got a chance to hear it!
- Helen Fredericks, of Kenilworth Avenue until she moved to Riderwood, died on July 22. She was active in many community activities, plus acting as a shoulder to lean on for her neighbors. Daughter Suzi Gifford and her husband Bob currently live in Garrett Park. A funeral was held at Warner Memorial Presbyterian Church on July 27.

- Did you see the *Gazette Seniors* article on the Newports? A classic rock band founded in the late 60's, they have performed in clubs, at the University of Maryland, and on the CYO circuit (www.e-pages.dk/postnewsweekmedia/201/24). One of the founding members, our own Mike Henley, still performs with the current group.
- From the past: "During the past week Garrett Park has been placed upon speaking terms with Washington and Baltimore by means of a telephone in Hardesty & Crehan's store. The Park people have already begun to realize what a convenience it is and how it fills a long felt want." (From the *Montgomery Press*, August 28, 1896)
- Now that we have our new Garrett Park Elementary School up and running, do you know what other four buildings in town housed the school at one time or another? (The answer is elsewhere in this issue!)
- Jeremy Lichtenstein of Bethesda RE/MAX has created a Kids in Need Distributorship, which provides bags of food to about 300 students in the Silver Spring, Gaithersburg, and Germantown areas. This helps with the feeding of those children during the weekends when they can't get free or reduced-cost lunches. Hats off to Jeremy!

#### **GPES**

The 2012–2013 school year is off to a flying start. With enrollment at an all-time high of 630 students, we are using the new addition that was completed at the end of last year. The old record was for 557 students in 1960. I wonder where they put them all, because the old building stopped where the stage was in our last building.

The school is still looking for some part-time workers to act as substitute lunch/recess aides. Applicants need to be at least 18 years old and

will be paid at a rate of \$13.88 per hour. If interested, contact Mrs. Georgatsos in the school office (301-929-2170).

The PTA-sponsored Book Fair will be in the school from October 8 to 11. If you would like to buy some books to use for holiday gifts, as well as help the school financially, come to the school on October 10 between 6 and 8 pm. The sale will be set up in the new wing on the first floor.

Mary Moyer



## Green Again

Our thanks this month go to Bonnie Tyler for springing for the green for our banner. She can't imagine Garrett Park without the *Bugle* each month to keep her informed about the local news.

We need some new donations for next year. We're good for the winter months, but could use some green to help us welcome in spring 2013. If you would care to sponsor a green banner to go along with the blooming flowers in town, please make out a check for \$45 to the Citizens Association and mail it to me at Box 98. Many thanks.

Mary Moyer

#### Lunch Bunch

For those who didn't make it to Lunch Bunch on Tuesday, September 11, we're sorry to say you missed a rousing good time, with some yummy salads, great wine, and a dizzying selection of delectable desserts! We sat "family style" and shared our bounty with the usual good cheer. In addition, Kay Hager brought former longtime resident Millie Mader from Asbury Methodist Home in Gaithersburg, and Millie led us all in spontaneous song for quite a while. Many thanks to our fearless Lunch Bunch "leader," Kathy Gagnon, who joined us despite arriving home late the night before from a Kentucky visit with her newborn twin grandchildren (boy and girl). We hope to see many more Garrett Park residents (all ages welcome) next month, Tuesday, October 9, 12:30 pm, Town Hall. Bring a dish to share, and a neighbor or friend! Casual, tasty, and fun!

Elizabeth Henley

## **Register to Vote!**

If you've moved into the neighborhood since the last election, now is a good time to register to vote or to update your current address with the Board of Elections. You can pick up your registration form at any post office, library, or public school and mail it in, or you can download the PDF form at www.777vote.org and mail it in.

The deadline is October 16, but don't wait until the last minute. You are not registered until you receive your Voter Notification Card from the Board of Elections. Garrett Park residents should be sure to list both your street address and your mailing address (Post Office Box number), or your Voter Notification Card may be "Returned to Sender."

Not sure if you're registered? Check voterservices.elections.state.md.us/VoterSearch to see if you're registered or not.

#### **GIVES News**

All are invited to the GIVES Soup and Bread Supper, which will be held at the Town Hall on Sunday, November 4, from 5 to 7 pm. For the past 39 years, GIVES (Garrett Park Intercommunity Voluntary Experiment in Sharing) has collected monetary, clothing, and toiletry donations to help relieve hunger and poverty locally and internationally. In these difficult recessionary times, it seems the need to feed, clothe, and train those less fortunate has increased dramatically.

Please join us not only for the wonderful food and to hear about plans for 2013—GIVES' 40th anniversary—but also to see a collection of photos created by the men and women of Thrive DC, who experience homelessness and poverty daily in DC. Entitled "Vision of the Phoenix," the artists' works are proof that they are not defined by their circumstances. In addition to the photos, Alicia Horton, Executive Director of Thrive DC, one of the nonprofits that benefits from GIVES donations, will be speaking briefly and answer your questions.

If you can attend the Soup Supper, please contact Karen Anderson and let her know if you can bring either *soup* or *bread and butter* to share for 10 to 12 people. And if you can contribute some supplies or your time to help set up or clean up, contact Rana Koll-Mandel.

GIVES also wants to remind each attendee to bring your own bowl, spoon, glass, and whatever you'd like to drink. All contributions collected at the door are tax deductible and benefit both Thrive DC and the American Friends Service Committee. Make 2012 your year to call some

Answer to question, p 4: Other school sites: (1) 1893: 10701 Kenilworth Avenue (the Wilpers') was a one-room school with 20 students. (2) 1927: The chapel (current Town Hall) housed additional students. (3) 1929: A school housing 42 students with 2 teachers opened in the current daycare center building. (4) 1950–51: The Community Center housed some students while a new school was constructed at the current site, 4810 Wille a new school was constructed at the current site, 4810 Oxford (opening in 1952 with 155 students and 6 teachers).

old and new neighbors and friends, ask them to attend, and get to know the GIVES community.

Finally, a few words from Debra, a client of Thrive DC:

"Thrive DC has changed my life. I've been coming here for nine months, and it has given me a new focus and productive things to do. They have a women's program that helped me get involved in interesting activities and get the support I need. I was around positive and helpful people. I eat a good breakfast and dinner at Thrive DC and as a result of coming here, I'm a lot healthier...

"At Thrive DC, I didn't feel like they looked down on me. They have always looked for ways to help me. I have hope now. I have an outlet. I had no place to go before Thrive DC. Plugging into the programs here helped me live a more productive life and achieve my dreams. I strongly encourage supporting Thrive DC. The organization is well appreciated and much needed."

Hope to see you on November 4!

Rana Koll-Mandel



## Letter from the Mayor

Our exceptional town staff got us through the summer storms, staying late, coming early, working through weekends to keep streets clear, and taking away all the detritus we hauled out to the curb. As we enter fall, it is time to get to work on many projects that will enhance our town. We intend to notify town residents as we begin planning each of these projects and will create opportunities to comment as they progress.

Several years ago, we developed a capital program designed to preserve our infrastructure. We need to implement the program. We are just completing major storm drain projects on North Kenilworth and Shelley Court. As next steps, we intend to rebuild and repave roads, replace and build new sidewalks, install new lighting, and do even more drains.

Speeding has increased along Strathmore. We are exploring with the Montgomery County Police whether it makes sense to have speed cameras (the small portable boxes) operate on Strathmore within town periodically—every couple of months for a few days. So far, the Police have installed detectors to test the level of speeding, without giving tickets. I invite you to make this a topic for consideration on the Garrett Park neighbors listsery. Is this a good idea?

We have met with county traffic engineers and the Montgomery County Police to evaluate whether we should retain the one-way "U" pattern for cars coming to GPES at the beginning and end of each school day. Our tentative conclusion is to leave it as is.

We have worked with the county and state to repair the crosswalks on Strathmore at Kenilworth and Keswick. There will be a temporary fix and then a replacement of the bricks with stamped concrete in the spring. They will also repair the two inoperative pedestrian crossing signs at Kenilworth and will propose an alternative to the flashing lights in the pavement at the Keswick pedestrian crossing.

We have been working with Pepco to limit the amount of tree pruning around electrical wires within town and along Strathmore. We also are trying to increase communication with Pepco, Washington Gas, and WSSC so that we are notified about projects within town to allow us to warn affected residents in advance and so that we can coordinate the activities to minimize disruption.

We are considering establishing on the Web a password-protected electronic listing of Garrett Park phone numbers, e-mail and street addresses, and PO box numbers. This would allow us to keep the information current as families move in and out and as people change their contact information. Residents would have control as to how much information about them is included. This is another topic we may want to discuss on the GP neighbors listsery.

Speaking of the listserv, many of us get the same message twice, once on the neighbors list and once on the Garrett Park mailing list. We are considering constraining the GP mailing list to official town notices only and using the neighbors list for activities information and informal interactions—another topic to discuss on the neighbors list.

The Parks and Open Space Committee is considering what groups should be allowed to use town parks, whether there should be some priorities for the various groups and activities, and whether reservations should be allowed or mandated. A special committee is also reviewing the use of the Town Hall by groups and individuals and the appropriate rental fees for the facility. There will be hearings before any action is taken.

Maybe that is a long enough list for now. We hope that you will participate in sharing your opinions, in working on some of the committees and task forces, and in making sure that your voice is heard as we consider these ideas.

Peter Benjamin

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